



IAFEI Weekly Update

Knowledge, Resources, News, and Announcements

This is an issue of IAFEI Weekly Update for the week of July 22, 2024.

Valued All IAFEI Board members, ExCom members & Advisory Committee members:

The following interesting articles and useful information await you in this issue. I hope you enjoy reading and "listening to" them.

My special thanks to Conchita and Piergiorgio for their contributions.

Please feel free to circulate this Weekly Update within your organization. I am hoping that this Weekly Update may increase the value of IAFEI membership. If you have any suggestions, or recommendations, or would like to participate to provide articles, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you for your continuous support and I would love to hear from you.

Tsutomu Mannari

Chairman of IAFEI

(Total 8 pages)

Upcoming Events

Date	Time	Event
July 29, 2024	-	IAFEI Quarterly (Article submission deadline: July 15)
August	TBC	OTC: Sustainability / ESG
September 2, 2024	TBC	OTC: Supply chain and digitalization
September 16, 2024	TBC	3rd Quarterly ExCom Meeting
October 25, 2024	TBC	IAFEI DAY in Tokyo

News from IAFEI Secretariat

Our **website** has been updated. You are welcome to visit www.iafei.org.

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■ **WORLD BANK GROUP** | Press Release | July 1, 2024 **World Bank Group Guarantee Platform Goes Live**

Platform will revolutionize the landscape of development financing

WASHINGTON, July 1, 2024 – Starting today, the World Bank Group (WBG) guarantee platform is open for business. The platform, housed at the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA), brings together products and experts from the World Bank, International Finance Corporation (IFC), and MIGA for simplicity, efficiency, and speed. It aims to boost WBG annual guarantee issuance to \$20 billion by 2030. (... ...)

[Read the Article >>>](#)

(↑ Contributed by Mr. Piergiorgio Valente)

■ **WORLD BANK GROUP** | Podcast | June 28, 2024 **What Does Artificial Intelligence Mean for the Developing World?** | The Development Podcast

FEATURING: Christine Zhenwei Qiang, Director, Digital Development Global Practice, World Bank Group / Naomi Longa, Seawomen of Melanesia, Papua New Guinea / Fred Munene, "Farm with Fred" farmer and YouTuber, Kenya / Snehal Joshi, Principal, Shikha Academy, India / Brigitte Hoyer Gosselink, Director of Product Impact at Google.org / Petra Molnar, Harvard Faculty Associate, lawyer, anthropologist, and author. (... ...)

[Listen to the Podcast >>>](#)

(↑ Contributed by Mr. Piergiorgio Valente)

■ **S&P Global Rating** | Quarterly Cyber Focus | JULY 17, 2024 **Cyber Risk Insights: Through the APAC Lens**

S&P Global Ratings' Quarterly Cyber Focus webinar series continues this month, hosted by our Asia-Pacific Corporates and Financial Institutions ratings teams. Join us, **Wednesday, July 24** for an interactive discussion surrounding our recently published research. (... ...)

[Reserve Your Spot >>>](#)

(↑ Contributed by Ms. Conchita L. Manabat)

■ **Bloomberg News** | Bloomberg AI | JULY 8, 2024 **Qualcomm, Microsoft Lean on AI Hype to Spur PC Market Revival**

Tech companies from Microsoft to Qualcomm are embarking on a marketing blitz for a new type of computer they are dubbing "AI PCs," promising artificial intelligence features embedded in their laptops and desktops. (... ...)

[Read This and Other Articles >>>](#)

(↑ Contributed by Mr. Piergiorgio Valente)

■ **The Economist** | JULY 3, 2024
The world's most liveable cities

Which city is the most liveable in the world? Hint: it's the historic capital of the Babenberg dynasty and the birthplace of the snow globe. This week EIU, our sister company, crowned it the world's most liveable city for a third consecutive year. (... ...)

[Read the Article >>>](#)

(↑ Contributed by Mr. Piergiorgio Valente)

■ **Blomberg Opinion** | Podcast | JUNE 29, 2024
Money Stuff Matt Levine : **Just Keep Bidding: MMTLP, PE, ETFs**

This week's Money Stuff podcast episode is out now, in which Katie and I discuss the MMTLP squeeze(s), the MAAX zips squeeze, 2 a.m. private equity interviews and replicating options using a mix of cash and stock.

[You Can Listen to the Episode Here >>>](#)

(↑ Contributed by Ms. Conchita L. Manabat)

■ **Maisons Of Tomorrow (Universe, Science, Tech)** | June 11, 2024
Surprisingly large quantity of space dust lands on our planet: about 5,200 tonnes per year, 100 tonnes per week, or 14 tonnes per day.

This dust is made up of tiny particles of rock and metal that have been chipped off asteroids and comets, either in large collisions or by micrometeoroids. About 80 per cent of all this dust originates from Jupiter-family comets, which have orbital periods of less than 20 years. (... ...)

[Read the Article >>>](#)

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WORLD BANK GROUP | Press Release | July 1, 2024

World Bank Group Guarantee Platform Goes Live

Platform will revolutionize the landscape of development financing

WASHINGTON, July 1, 2024 – Starting today, the World Bank Group (WBG) guarantee platform is open for business. The platform, housed at the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA), brings together products and experts from the World Bank, International Finance Corporation (IFC), and MIGA for simplicity, efficiency, and speed. It aims to boost WBG annual guarantee issuance to \$20 billion by 2030.

WBG Guarantees will serve as a one-stop-shop for all WBG guarantee business, providing the best guarantee solutions for clients to meet project needs and development priorities. WBG clients can now choose from a simplified market-friendly menu of guarantee options. The platform will provide three types of coverages: credit guarantees for loans to the public or private sector; trade finance guarantees for trade finance projects involving public entities; and political risk insurance against non-commercial risks for private sector projects or public-private partnerships.

"MIGA is excited to host and begin the operationalization of the guarantee platform. This marks a pivotal moment in our commitment to sustainable economic development," said **Hiroshi Matano, MIGA Executive Vice President**. *"We aim to leverage the World Bank Group's collective expertise and knowledge of guarantee business to usher the WBG into a new era of partnership with the private sector, catalyzing foreign investment in emerging markets and developing economies."*

A major priority during the WBG's recent evolution process was enabling and catalyzing private capital flows, underscoring the effectiveness of guarantees. The G20 Independent Expert Group's report on Strengthening Multilateral Development Banks called for expanded use of guarantees to mitigate risk and unlock private finance. And the Private Sector Investment Lab, launched by the WBG in June 2023 to identify barriers and solutions for private sector investment in emerging markets, provided specific guidance on using guarantee instruments.

The platform's transformative solution is set to revolutionize the landscape of development financing, revitalizing the role of guarantees in development and aligning with the overall effort to mobilize private capital for development. It complements the World Bank's country-level support in creating an environment supportive to private capital mobilization. This collaboration is supported by IFC's advisory and financial instruments to enhance private sector engagement with country clients.

The new platform introduces a scalable model, prioritizing high-impact projects, thereby optimizing resource allocation, and facilitating growth. Leveraging the collective expertise of the WBG, the platform will drive impactful solutions across diverse sectors, including energy access, pandemic preparedness, and climate action. Through collaborative efforts and innovative financing systems, the platform is set to drive sustainable development and promote inclusive growth worldwide.

In fiscal year 2024, the World Bank Group issued approximately \$10.3 billion in new guarantees using products that will be part of the platform: \$8.2 billion from MIGA, \$1.4 billion from IFC, and nearly \$700 million from the World Bank.

About World Bank Group Guarantees

Initiated in 2024, World Bank Group Guarantees consolidates all guarantee products and experts from across the World Bank Group institutions at MIGA. It provides a simplified and comprehensive menu of guarantee solutions, enabling clients to select the instrument that best suits their needs. The platform

streamlines processes, removes redundancies, and provides greater accessibility by de-risking investments in developing countries. Its goal is to boost the WBG's annual guarantee issuance to \$20 billion by 2030.

For more information about the guarantee platform, please visit: <https://www.worldbank.org/wbguarantees>

Stay updated and follow us

at <https://twitter.com/MIGA> and <https://www.linkedin.com/company/wb-miga>

Contact:

In Washington: Elizabeth Howton, (202) 458-5922 or ehowton@worldbankgroup.org

PRESS RELEASE NO: 2024/094/MIGA

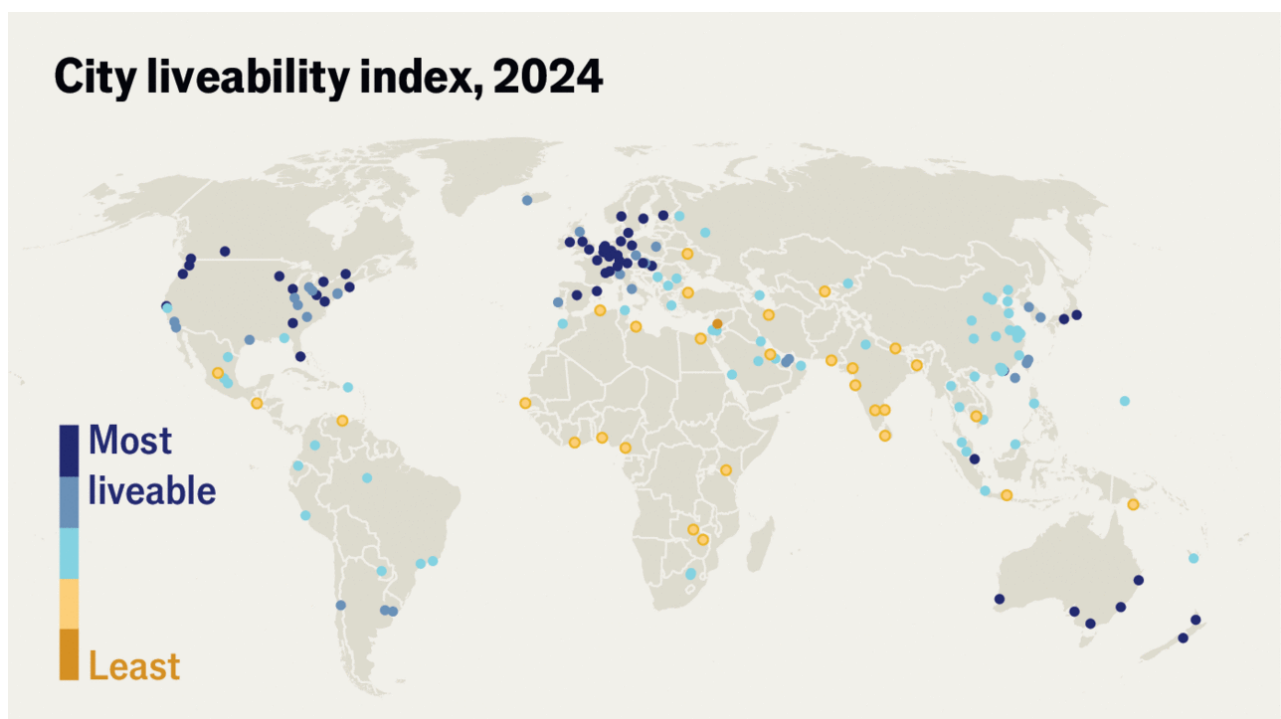
(Reposted from: WORLD BANK GROUP, Press Release, July 1 2024)

The Economist | JULY 3, 2024
The world's most liveable cities

Which city is the most liveable in the world? Hint: it's the historic capital of the Babenberg dynasty and the birthplace of the snow globe. This week EIU, our sister company, crowned it the world's most liveable city for a third consecutive year.

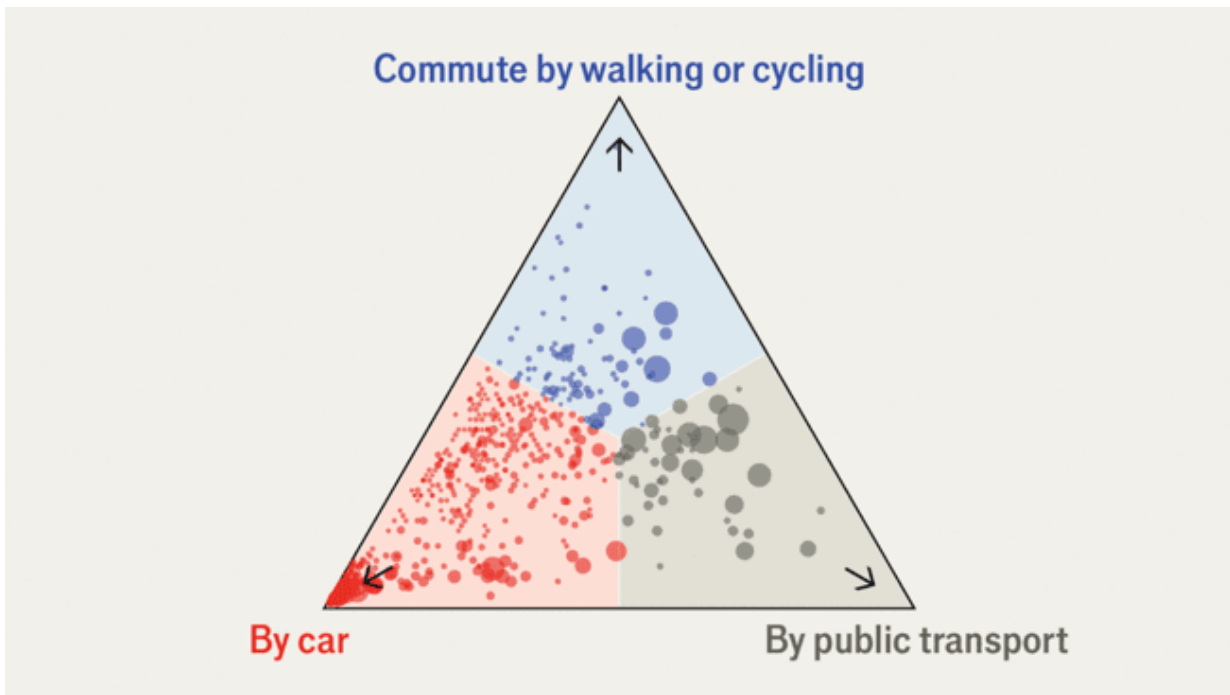
EIU's index measures liveability using criteria like good schools, access to health care and so on. These are all relevant factors if you're considering a move. But if you ask me, some important qualities of a city can't be easily quantified. The general buzz and unpredictability can be what makes it exciting. I'd love a weekend trip to this year's top-rated cities, but for now I'll happily call number 70 my home.

Michelle Hennessy, Graphic detail editor

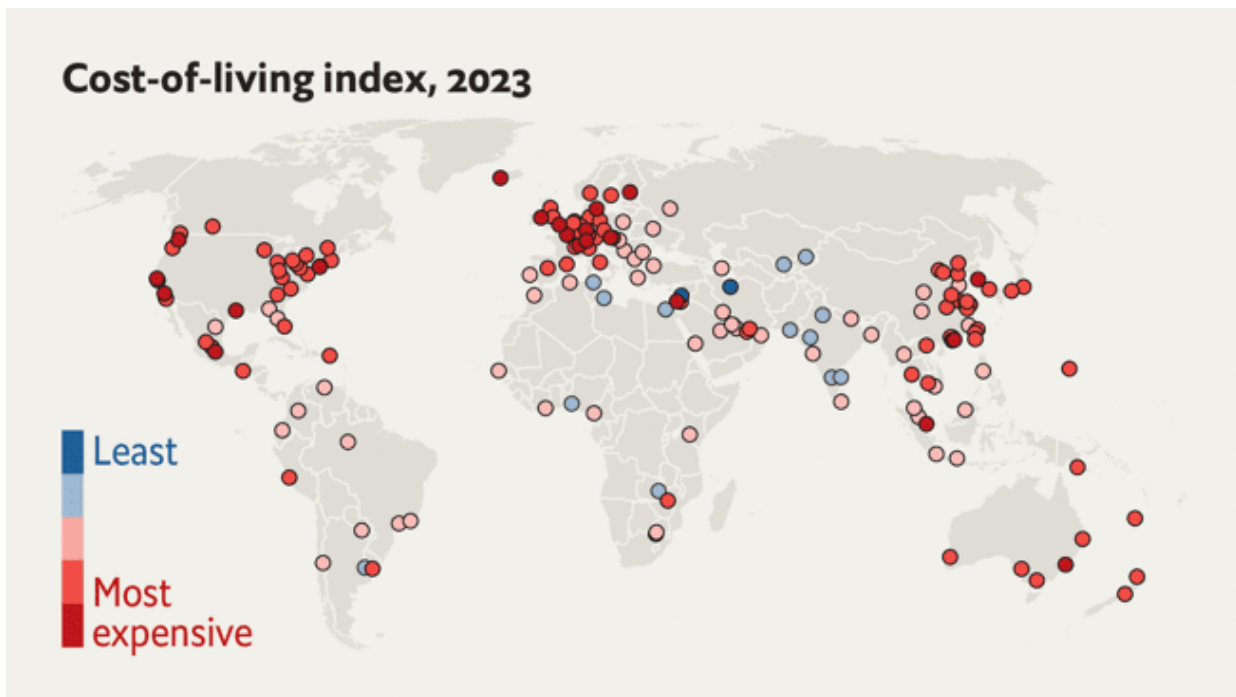


Our sister company has rated the best, and worst, cities in which to live:

[The world's most liveable cities in 2024](#)

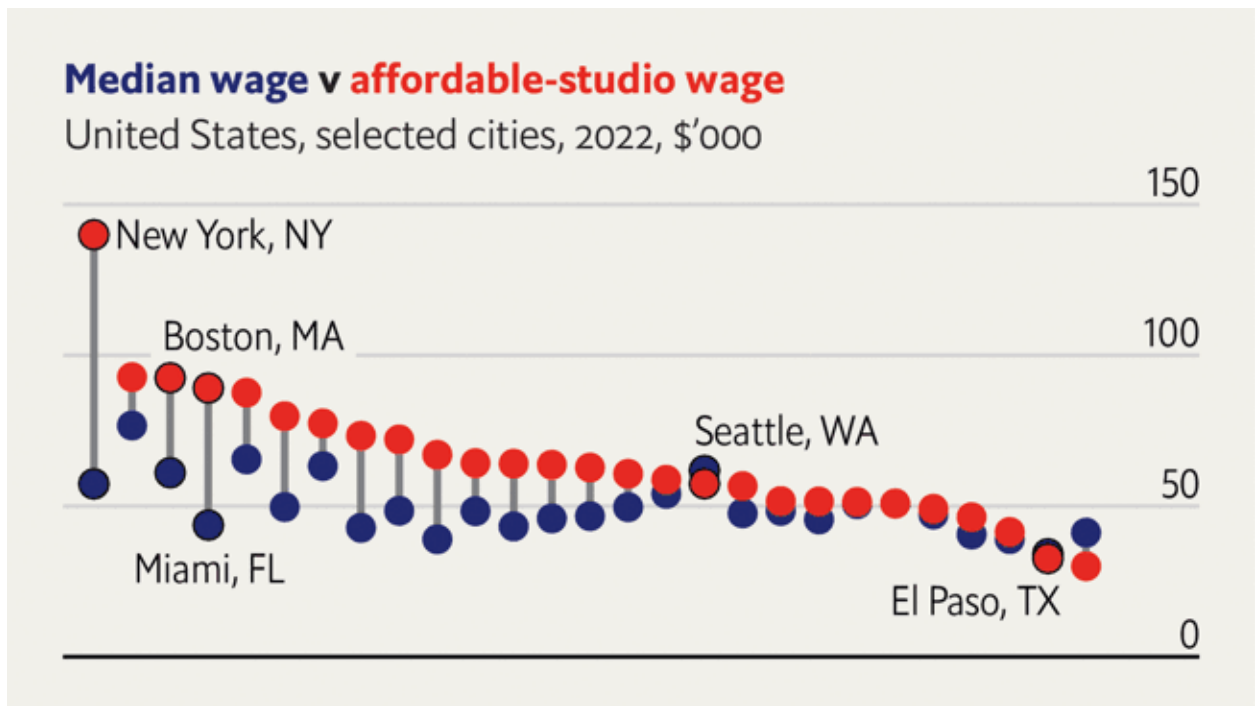


The world's most, and least, walkable cities



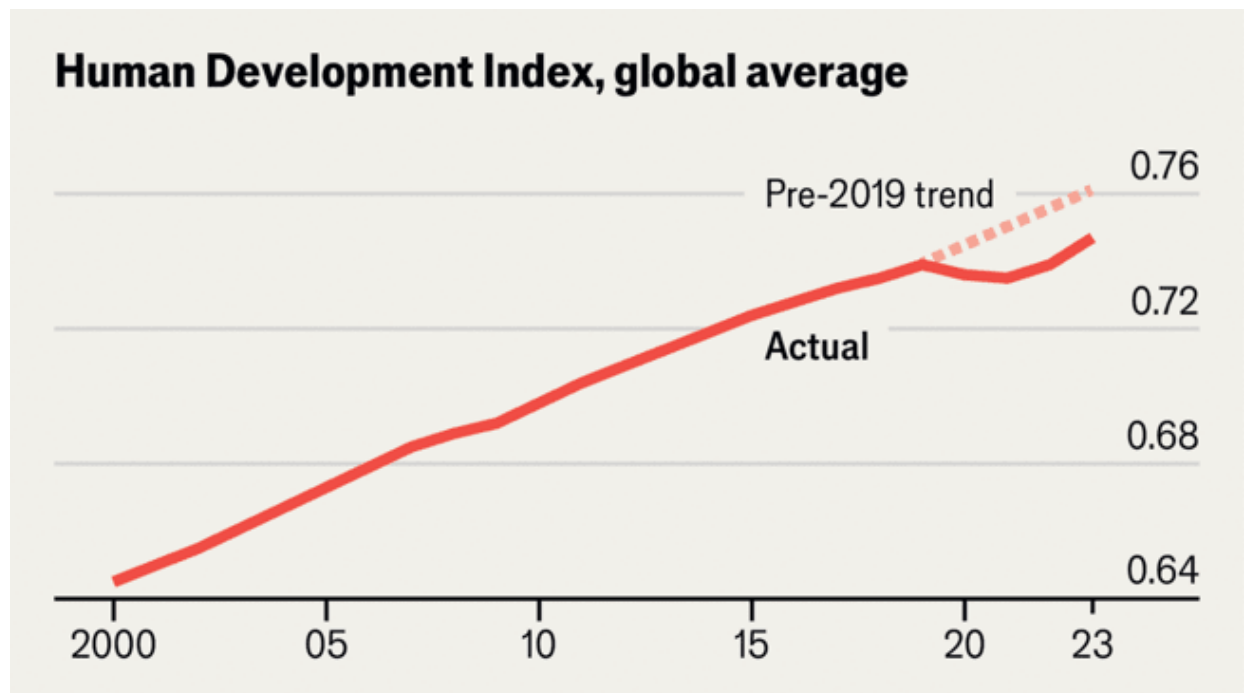
These are the world's most expensive cities

EIU's cost-of-living index shows where prices are highest.



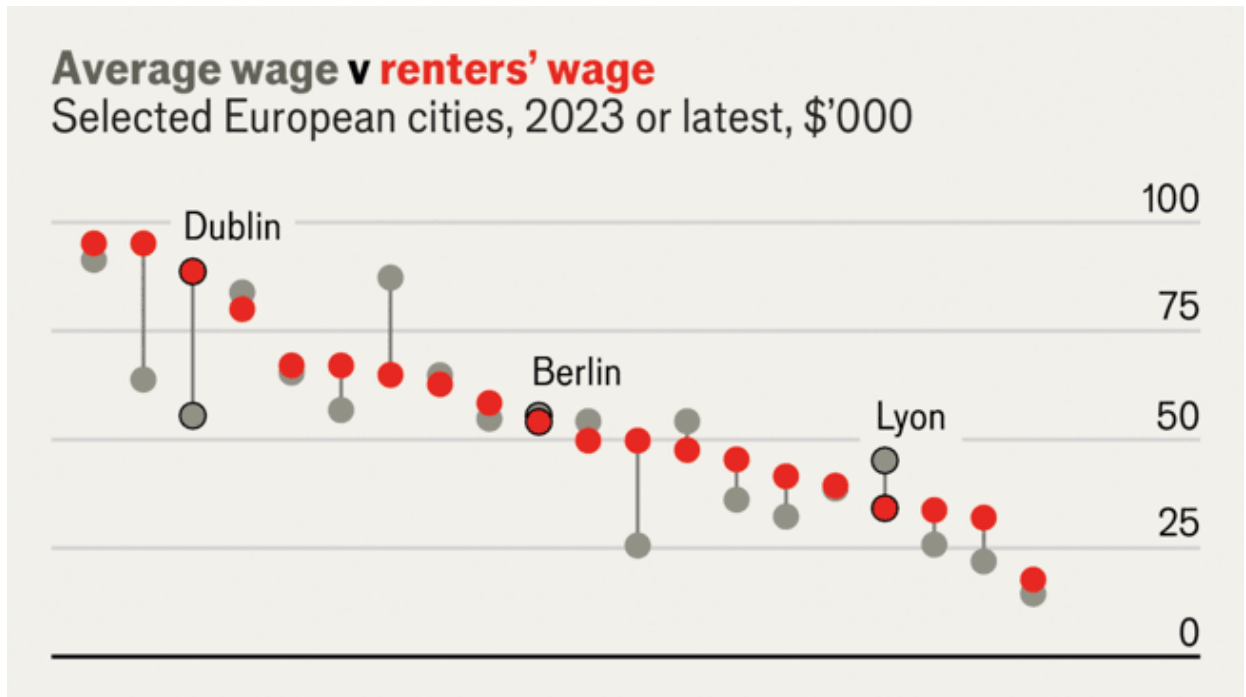
Our Carrie Bradshaw index: Where Americans can afford to live solo

In many cities even the most basic apartments are unaffordable.



Which countries have the best, and worst, living standards?

Data show progress worldwide may have suffered a permanent setback.



Where are Europe's most expensive cities for renters?

Our "Carrie Bradshaw index" moves across the pond.

(Reposted from: The Economist, July 3, 2024)